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Town Topics

Defense Chiefs Get Together at Party

By Marie McNair

DEFENSE SECRETARY Neil McElroy and Mrs. McElroy were guests of honor at a dinner last evening given by Assistant Secretary of Defense and Mrs. Charles Finucane who entertained at the 1925 F Street Club.

The guests, numbering 52, sat at four tables, all flower-trimmed, after first having cocktails in the drawing room.

For her party, Mrs. Finucane wore black velvet with a strapless top and a little cape of black net dotted in jumbo sequins. Mrs. McElroy's dress was gold brocade with halter top and a bustle back.

One of the prettiest dresses was worn by Mrs. Malcolm MacIntyre, wife of the Under Secretary of the Air Force. Hers was of white



Mrs. McNair

lace, sprinkled with sequins and threaded at the neckline with pale blue ribbon.

When Secretary McElroy was asked whether he was going to take "sitting down" Senator Stuart Symington's remarks about the gaps in the missile program, McElroy answered, "I like the man. We've just had a different approach. You can't get up every time. This is just the beginning."

Secretary of the Navy Thomas Gates, when asked whether he is going to resign, said: "Drew Pearson is writing for me. I have no plans."

There was music before, during and after dinner. In the small, bare spot in the drawing room, there was enough room for three couples to dance. Robert LeBaron twirled Mrs. McElroy and Eric Johnston danced with Mrs. Griff Warfield.

The Italian Ambassador and Signora Brasio, the Australian Ambassador and Mrs. Howard Beale were in the group.

Then there were Under Secretary of State and Mrs.

Douglas Dillon, Mrs. Tom Gates, Gen. Nathan Twining, chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff, and Mrs. Twining and Army Chief of Staff, Gen. Maxwell Taylor, and Mrs. Taylor.

Allen Dulles, Central Intelligence Director, and Mrs. Dulles, were among the guests and others were Robert Dechert, General Counsel for the Defense Department, and Mrs. Dechert; Under Secretary of the Air Force MacIntyre, Admiral and Mrs. Thomas Kinkaid, Admiral and Mrs. Arthur Radford, Gen. and Mrs. E. Hull and former Chief of Protocol and Mrs. John F. Simmons.

There also were the Mrs. Eric Johnston, Perte Mesta, Mr. and Mrs. Oliver Gale, Gabriel Paresce, Press Counselor of the Italian Embassy; Judge and Mrs. Homer Ferguson, Rear Admiral Warfield, Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Akers, Bill McEvoy, Mrs. Robert LeBaron, Mrs. Robert Low Bacon, Mr. and Mrs. Jop Gardner, the Rufus Peckhams, the Joseph Terbells and George L. Williams.

General and Mrs. John McKibbin, wife of the Assistant Postmaster General.

BRIDAL LUNCHEON:

Gen. and Mrs. Omar Bradley were hosts at luncheon yesterday at the Officers Club at Fort McNair for Miss Carlotta Prichard and Willis Paul Tippet Jr., who will be married this afternoon. Mrs. Vernon Prichard, mother of the bride-to-be and Mr. and Mrs. Tippet of Crawfordsville, Ind., were among the 40 guests.

Others included members of the wedding party and the brother-in-law and sister of the bridegroom, Dr. and Mrs. David Speers of New York; Brig. Gen. and Mrs. Christian Clarke of Fort Jackson, S. C.; Lt. Gen. and Mrs. Willis Crittenger and Maj. Gen. and Mrs. Leland Hobbs of New York; Maj. Gen. and Mrs. Anthony J. Draxel Biddle, Lt. Gen. and Mrs. Clovis Byers, Brig. Gen. and Mrs. Willard Holbrook, Maj. Gen. and Mrs. Charles Bonesteel Jr., Mrs. Maxwell Taylor, Mrs. John Kaile and Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin Dorsey.

OLD FRIENDS MEET: At the Thai Embassy last evening the Secretary General of SEATO, pote Sarasin (right) met a lot of old friends, among them Lt. Gen. and Mrs. Arthur Trudeau (left). General Trudeau was Director of Army Intelligence while Sarasin was his country's Ambassador here. In the background is Mme. Khoman, wife of the Thailand Ambassador, who was hostess at the party. Her husband is on a business trip to Bangkok.